

# RADIO-TELETYPE COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

*Agreement signed at Moscow May 24, 1946*  
*Entered into force May 24, 1946*

60 Stat. 1696; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1527

## AGREEMENT ON THE ORGANIZATION OF COMMERCIAL RADIO TELETYPE COMMUNICATION CHANNELS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics wishing to establish special channels of commercial radio teletypewriter communication between both countries prior to the curtailment of the present military radio teletypewriter channels have decided to conclude the following agreement and have appointed for that purpose their respective authorized representatives as follows:

For the Government of the United States of America,  
Walter Bedell Smith  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,  
Alexander Dmitrievich Fortushenko  
Deputy Minister for Postal and Electrical Communications

The representatives, having exchanged their credentials, which were found to be in good order, have agreed as follows on behalf of their respective governments:

### ARTICLE I

Commercial radio multichannel or multiplex teletypewriter communication systems between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America will be established and placed into operation on a commercial basis as soon as possible in lieu of the existing military radio teletypewriter channels.

The terminals of the commercial radio teletypewriter channels in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will be in Moscow; the terminals of the channels in the United States of America will be in New York.

The contracting parties will provide for such leased tributary lines to such Soviet offices in the United States of America as may be desired by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and for such leased tributary lines to such United States Government offices in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as may be desired by the Government of the United States of America.

The channels will be through a radio relay station at Tangier.

With the aim of not interrupting the present radio teletypewriter circuits between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, it is agreed that transmission of traffic over these channels will continue on a military basis pending completion of the Tangier radio relay station.

These communications will be used for the transmission of Public Correspondence between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics with priority of service reserved for the transmission of Governmental telegrams of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the United States of America.

Governmental telegrams of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the United States of America will normally be handled on a tape-relay basis. This communication service will further provide for the establishment of radio teletypewriter conference service between the Governmental agencies of the Government of Soviet Socialist Republics when desired. This communication service will also provide this conference service between the Governmental agencies of the Government of the United States of America when desired.

No restrictions or limitations will be imposed by either Government as to language or codes and ciphers to be used by either Government in the official transaction of their respective business, i.e. radio teletypewriter service operating on an automatic or tape-relay basis permits the use of the Russian alphabet and the use of non-uniform codes and ciphers (mixed letters and figures plus other teletypewriter characters and functions).

The operation of the circuits between Tangier and Moscow, U.S.S.R. will be operated at Tangier by the United States commercial communication companies, at Moscow by the Ministry of Postal and Electrical Communications.

The operation of the circuits between the United States and the relay station or stations in Tangier will be by the interested United States commercial communication companies—RCA, Mackay Radio and Press Wireless, Incorporated organizations.

## ARTICLE II

The Government of the United States of America agrees:

A. To assist the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in purchasing through the United States Foreign Liquidation Commission sufficient equipment to operate initially two each full-duplex single-channel radio teletypewriter channels between Moscow and each participating United States commercial company in Tangier.

B. That the newly organized commercial service will utilize in Moscow the equipment of the existing military radio teletypewriter channels which will be expanded to fulfill the terms of Article II (A) as soon as possible.

C. That by mutual agreement between the Ministry of Postal and Electrical Communications and each of the participating companies, these full-duplex single-channel installations will be replaced or augmented by multichannel or multiplex equipment.

D. That assistance will further be given to obtain such additional equipment as may be required for the Moscow terminal of these channels upon presentation of evidence of the necessity therefor to the Government of the United States through the American Embassy in Moscow.

E. After the initial establishment of the commercial radio teletypewriter channels, to assist the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in increasing the circuit capacity to meet the load requirements of the circuit by increased speeds of operation and such other technical developments as may become commercially available.

F. To authorize the participating companies immediately to initiate such commercial agreements regarding tariffs, et cetera, as may be required.

## ARTICLE III

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees:

A. To purchase through the United States Foreign Liquidation Commission such additional single-channel radio teletypewriter equipment as may be necessary to fulfill the terms of Article II.

B. To purchase through the commercial companies which manufacture multichannel or multiplex equipment such multichannel or multiplex equipment as may be required to fulfill the terms of Article II.

C. To authorize the Ministry of Postal and Electrical Communications immediately to complete such necessary negotiations with the participating United States commercial companies regarding the tariffs and operating procedures as may be required.

## ARTICLE IV

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agree:

A. That upon the completion of the first three single-channel relay installations at Tangier, to inaugurate immediately radio teletypewriter service on a commercial basis through the radio relay station or stations at Tangier, utilizing for this purpose in Moscow the equipment of the existing military radio teletypewriter channels, the transfer to commercial service to be made without loss of circuit time.

B. That the commercial and technical regulations for the operation of this communication system will be determined prior to the initial operation of the system, by mutual agreement of the United States commercial communication companies participating and the Ministry of Postal and Electrical Communications subject to such approval as may be required by the laws of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America.

#### ARTICLE V

This Agreement will become effective immediately upon the signing thereof on behalf of the contracting parties and will remain in force until its cancellation by one of the contracting parties which must give written notice to the other party six months in advance of the date of its intention to terminate this Agreement.

This Agreement is drawn in two copies, each one in the English and Russian languages, both texts having equal force.

In witness whereof the undersigned duly authorized by their respective Governments have signed the two copies of this Agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

Done in Moscow, this 24 day of May, 1946.

For the Government of the United States of America:

WALTER BEDELL SMITH [SEAL]

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

A. FORTUSHENKO [SEAL]